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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT

"Eighth Guards Pontoon Regiment"/Description of Pontoons/Preparations For Building Pontoon Bridges

PLACE ACQUIRED (BY SOURCE)

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- 1. "In the city of Izmail on the Danube River, the Soviet '8th Guards Pontoon Regiment' is stationed. This regiment has a special 'pontoon park' and the equipment for throwing two 'floating motor transport and railway bridges' up to 1,000 meters long over the Danube River. The following is known about the materials possessed by this pontoon park:
- 2. "It has 80 special steel pontoons built for it by the Nikolaisk naval shipyard. These pontoons have a:

Length

15 meters

Breadth

5 "

Depth

2 !

Weight

18 tons

- 3. "The body of the pontoons is made from sheet steel 6-8 mm. thick. Inside they are divided into three separate waterproof compartments. Every compartment has a hatch on the deck which is hermetically closed with a lid.
- 4. "To compose a floating bridge, one composes first of all the sections of the bridge. Each of these takes two pontoons and is 25 m. long. For the composition of the sections, there are steel pipe parts and special ready-made bridge spans 25 m. long.
- 5. "One 25-meters-long floating bridge section can carry a load of up to 170 tons.
- 6. "The finished floating bridge is covered with an 'auto road' decking (and if necessary provided with a one-track railroad) 5.2 m. broad. Great loads and railway trains (consisting of five carriages) can cross the bridge at a speed of up to 10 km hours.
- 7. "The places where preparations for building the aforesaid bridges have been made are: Kartal (west of Izmail), Galatf Braila, Harsova, Chernavoda, Kalarash, Oltenita and Guirgiu."

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